



Refer to the Confidence Level Overview section above for a summary of steps taken to assure data quality.

SWAP data product completeness at the end of a mission phase

Downlink data several days beyond the end of the nominal end of mission phase* were included in this data set in an attempt to fill the products at the nominal end of mission phase*. This was done in an attempt to ensure complete coverage of data up through the nominal end of the mission phase*. This also means that for the SWAP last-in-time products in this data set, which include observations beyond the nominal end of the mission phase*, may be incomplete. The following paragraphs provide details about this issue.

SWAP data product completeness - details

SWAP data are taken more or less continuously, but telemetry downlinks are done in batches, so the SWAP data are stored on-board the spacecraft at least until they are downlinked, sometimes hours or days after they are taken. Furthermore, SWAP PDS data are grouped into products, each covering approximately one day's worth of data, starting and ending at a time of day near 18:08 UTC.

This data set comprises data downlinked through a fixed cutoff date*. The interaction between the downlink cutoff, the batch nature of downlink, and the grouping of SWAP data will result in the last day's, or few days', data products in this data set containing less than a full day's worth of data. This applies to SWAP science and engineering data as well as housekeeping and thruster data stored in the data products. This has been most noticeable during the Pluto PDS data set deliveries, e.g. the last product in the V2.0 delivery with ApID 0x585 had very little science data and neither housekeeping nor thruster data, whereas the same product in the V3.0 delivery had the full expected day's worth of data; also, the V3.0 delivery has a product with ApID 0x584 that was not present in the V2.0 delivery.

For example, this

The NH project is considering delivering SWAP data sets as a single incrementing data set. Beyond that and other than adding a few days of telemetry beyond the nominal mission phase end*, the NH project has no further plans to mitigate this minor issue.

In summary, the choice to deliver New Horizon data sets by mission phase affects SWAP data set product completeness near those mission phase boundaries.

Observation descriptions in this data set catalog

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Some users will expect to find descriptions of the observations in this data set here, in this Confidence Level Note. This data set follows the more common convention of placing those descriptions under the Data Set Description (above, if the user is reading this in the DATASET.CAT file) of this data set catalog.